

## ELLISON CENTER FOR THE ARTS

## Public buildings should be a 'good fit' with neighbors

**T**he Ellison Center for the Arts in Duxbury blends in so well with its residential neighbors, you might not notice right off that it is a public building, let alone that it began its life as a Catholic church.

It is Pamela Campbell's choice of a building that has stayed in scale with its surrounding despite a major renovation and change in use.

When the congregation of Holy Family Church moved to larger quarters a few years back, the Duxbury Art Association and the South Shore Conservatory teamed up to transform the traditional brick structure into a multi-purpose arts center. The architecture firm of Strekalovsky & Hoyt in Hingham handled the \$1.6 million job.



PAMELA CAMPBELL

"The church itself was just the front half of the building," Campbell said, pointing out the two-story rear section with windows that duplicate those on the original building. "The addition is so well designed, it isn't obvious where it begins. That is a compliment to the architects.

They were able to

match materials and the architectural style."

The building also takes advantage of its location on a triangular piece of land. The odd-shaped parcel around the building has been landscaped to provide walkways and exhibit space for outdoor sculptures.

CAROLINE COLE



GLOBE STAFF PHOTOS / GEORGE RIZER

The Ellison Center for the Arts in Duxbury blends with the architectural style of its neighborhood.